**Watching a film to help us find who broke the law**

**What you need to know**

**Thank you for your help**

When you spoke to the police about what you saw or what happened to you (made your statement) you told them you may have seen someone who broke the law.

Now you might be able to help us find them. You can do this by watching a VIPER, which is a video identification parade electronic recording.

This leaflet tells you:

* what a VIPER is
* what will happen
* what to do in the VIPER.

You are doing a really important job for us. So thank you very much for your help.

**If you have any questions**

We want you to feel as comfortable as possible about watching the film for us. So if you have any questions or worries after you have read this leaflet, let the adult supporting you know before you come for the VIPER. This should be an adult you trust. They can then get in touch with us so we can help.

**What is a VIPER?**

A VIPER is a film you watch to see if you can see the person you told the police about. It is usually at a police station.

You watch the film on a TV or laptop. It is about 3 minutes long.

The film has up to 9 video clips in it. Each video clip shows a different person. One of the clips may show the person you told the police about.

Each person in the film is in front of a grey background. They turn their head from left to right. Everyone in the film does this the same way.

Then you decide if anyone in the film is the person you told us about.

**I’m nervous, can I take someone with me?**

Yes. We understand you might be nervous, so you can have someone there with you.

They need to be an adult you trust and feel comfortable with. They will not be able to watch the film or help you pick someone in the film. But they will be there to support you while you do.

**Who else will be there?**

When you do your VIPER, as well as you there will be:

* an adult you trust to support you
* two members of our identification team to show you the film and take notes
* the lawyer who is working for the person we think broke the law – they won’t ask you any questions, they just need to see what happens and make sure everything is fair
* anyone else to help you if you need extra support – like someone who speaks your language.

**Will the person I saw be there?**

No – don’t worry. You will not meet the person you told us about or see them face to face. But you may see them in one of the pre-recorded video clips in the film.

If you are worried about seeing anyone else when you come to watch the film, please tell the adult who is going to come with you. They will tell us, so we can make sure you do not meet anyone you do not want to see.

**What will happen?**

1. When you arrive, our team will meet you and take you and the adult coming with you to the room where you can watch the film.
2. One of the police officers will tell you about the film – like how it works, what you will see and what you need to do.
3. They will ask you to tell them who you are, even if they know who you are already. This is to make sure we have a list of everyone who comes to the VIPER.
4. They will show you the film with the clips of the different people.

**What do I need to do?**

1. Watch the film carefully. You will see up to nine clips of different people.
2. Try to remember the person you saw and what you told the police about them.
3. Look at each person in each clip and see if they are the person you told the police about.

You do not need to rush – you can take your time.

You will usually watch the film twice. This is so you can have a good look at each person.

If you need to see the film more than twice, just tell the police or the adult who came with you.

**If you recognise someone**

Each video clip will show a different person and have a different number.

If you see the person you told us about in one of the video clips, check the number of the clip they are in. Then tell the police or the adult who came with you the number of the clip.

If you struggle with numbers, please let us know. We will be able to label the clips differently for you, for example with letters or shapes.

**If you do not recognise anyone**

That’s ok – you do not have to pick someone. Just tell the person showing you the film you do not recognise anyone.

They might ask you if anyone in the film looks anything like the person you saw. If there is nobody in the film who looks like the person you saw, that’s ok too – just tell them that.

**What if I do not understand something?**

If you do not understand something or you want to ask a question, you can tell the police or the adult who came with you. They will explain everything and make sure you understand.

**What if I get upset or scared?**

We want you to be ok when you watch the film.

If you get upset or scared at any time, you can tell the police or the adult who came with you. They will try to help you feel better.

If you feel better, you can carry on watching the film if you want to.

**Any other questions?**

We want to make the VIPER as easy as possible for you. If you have any questions, please let us know.

You can call 101 or speak to the officer in charge of the case.

For more help and support, view this leaflet online, or to view in other languages, please

Visit [www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/viper](http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/viper) or scan the below QR code and to read about the service you can expect from us,please visit www.scotland.police.uk/victimsandwitnesses.